



12/17/99

12-20-99

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Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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<b>UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL</b> <small>(Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b))</small>		<b>Attorney Docket No.</b> 42543.3	
		<b>First Inventor or Application Identifier</b> Ruben	
		<b>Title</b> Method of and system for labeling containers of Prescribed Medicine	
		<b>Express Mail Label No.</b> EL529167059US	

<b>APPLICATION ELEMENTS</b> <small>See MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application contents.</small> <p>1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> * Fee Transmittal Form (e.g., PTO/SB/17) <small>(Submit an original and a duplicate for fee processing)</small></p> <p>2. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Specification [Total Pages 12] <small>(preferred arrangement set forth below)</small> - Descriptive title of the Invention - Cross References to Related Applications - Statement Regarding Fed sponsored R &amp; D - Reference to Microfiche Appendix - Background of the Invention - Brief Summary of the Invention - Brief Description of the Drawings (if filed) - Detailed Description - Claim(s) - Abstract of the Disclosure</p> <p>3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) (35 U.S.C. 113) [Total Sheets 4]</p> <p>4. Oath or Declaration [Total Pages 3] a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Newly executed (original or copy) b. <input type="checkbox"/> Copy from a prior application (37 C.F.R. § 1.63(d)) <small>(for continuation/divisional with Box 16 completed)</small> i. <input type="checkbox"/> DELETION OF INVENTOR(S) <small>Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s) named in the prior application, see 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b).</small></p> <p><small>* NOTE FOR ITEMS 1 &amp; 13: IN ORDER TO BE ENTITLED TO PAY SMALL ENTITY FEES, A SMALL ENTITY STATEMENT IS REQUIRED (37 C.F.R. § 1.27), EXCEPT IF ONE FILED IN A PRIOR APPLICATION IS RELIED UPON (37 C.F.R. § 1.28).</small></p>	<b>ADDRESS TO:</b> Assistant Commissioner for Patents Box Patent Application Washington, DC 20231  5. <input type="checkbox"/> Microfiche Computer Program (Appendix) 6. Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission (if applicable, all necessary) a. <input type="checkbox"/> Computer Readable Copy b. <input type="checkbox"/> Paper Copy (identical to computer copy) c. <input type="checkbox"/> Statement verifying identity of above copies
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<b>ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS</b>	
7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (cover sheet & document(s)) 8. <input type="checkbox"/> 37 C.F.R. § 3.73(b) Statement <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney <small>(when there is an assignee)</small> 9. <input type="checkbox"/> English Translation Document (if applicable) 10. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)/PTO-1449 <input type="checkbox"/> Copies of IDS Citations 11. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preliminary Amendment 12. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503) <small>(Should be specifically itemized)</small> 13. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> * Small Entity Statement(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Statement filed in prior application, Status still proper and desired <small>(PTO/SB/09-12)</small> 14. <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <small>(if foreign priority is claimed)</small> 15. <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	

16. If a **CONTINUING APPLICATION**, check appropriate box, and supply the requisite information below and in a preliminary amendment:  
☐ Continuation ☐ Divisional ☐ Continuation-in-part (CIP) of prior application No: \_\_\_\_\_  
Prior application information: Examiner \_\_\_\_\_ Group / Art Unit: \_\_\_\_\_  
**For CONTINUATION or DIVISIONAL APPS only:** The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which an oath or declaration is supplied under Box 4b, is considered a part of the disclosure of the accompanying continuation or divisional application and is hereby incorporated by reference. The incorporation can only be relied upon when a portion has been inadvertently omitted from the submitted application parts.

<b>17. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS</b>					
<input type="checkbox"/> Customer Number or Bar Code Label _____ or <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correspondence address below <small>(Insert Customer No. or Attach bar code label here)</small>					
Name	James E. Marina, Esq.				
Address	Winston & Strawn				
	200 Park Avenue				
City	New York	State	New York	Zip Code	10166
Country	U.S.A.	Telephone	212-294-6700	Fax	212-294-4700

Name (Print/Type)	James E. Marina, Esq.	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	41,969
Signature		Date	12/17/99

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EL529167059US

**STATEMENT CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS  
(37 CFR 1.9(f) & 1.27(c))--SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN**

Docket Number (Optional)  
42543.3

Applicant, Patentee, or Identifier: Ruben et al.  
Application or Patent No.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Filed or Issued: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: Method of and system for labeling containers of prescribed medicine

I hereby state that I am  
☐ the owner of the small business concern identified below:  
☒ an official of the small business concern empowered to act on behalf of the concern identified below:

NAME OF SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN Rxperts, Inc.  
ADDRESS OF SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN 6308 Oakton Street, Morton, Illinois  
60053

I hereby state that the above identified small business concern qualifies as a small business concern as defined in 13 CFR Part 121 for purposes of paying reduced fees to the United States Patent and Trademark Office. Questions related to size standards for a small business concern may be directed to: Small Business Administration, Size Standards Staff, 409 Third Street, SW, Washington, DC 20416.

I hereby state that rights under contract or law have been conveyed to and remain with the small business concern identified above with regard to the invention described in:

- ☒ the specification filed herewith with title as listed above.  
☐ the application identified above.  
☐ the patent identified above.

If the rights held by the above identified small business concern are not exclusive, each individual, concern, or organization having rights in the invention must file separate statements as to their status as small entities, and no rights to the invention are held by any person, other than the inventor, who would not qualify as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) if that person made the invention, or by any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d), or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).

- Each person, concern, or organization having any rights in the invention is listed below:  
☒ no such person, concern, or organization exists.  
☐ each such person, concern, or organization is listed below.

Separate statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention stating their status as small entities. (37 CFR 1.27)

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28(b))

NAME OF PERSON SIGNING Dennis Ruben  
TITLE OF PERSON IF OTHER THAN OWNER Dr.  
ADDRESS OF PERSON SIGNING 6308 Oakton Street, Morton, Illinois 60053  
SIGNATURE [Signature] DATE 12/14/99

42543.3

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Applicant:** Dennis Ruben et al.

**Serial No.:** N/A

**Filed:** Herewith

**Art Unit:** N/A

**For:** Method of and System for Labeling Containers of Prescribed Medicine

**Examiner:** N/A

Winston & Strawn  
200 Park Avenue  
New York, New York 10166  
212-294-6700

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to any action on the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows:

In the specification:

Page 1, line 22, change "MSA" to --MAR--.

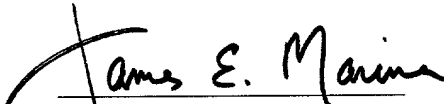
In the drawings:

Please substitute the attached Figure 4 for the original Figure 4.

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully submits this Preliminary Amendment to correct a typographical error in the specification and to provide a clearer Figure 4. No new matter has been added.

Respectfully submitted,

  
James E. Marina, Esq.  
Reg. No. 41,969

09460000 12300

## TITLE OF THE INVENTION

Method of and System for Labeling Containers of Prescribed Medicine

## BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

### 5 1. Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to prescription medicine. More particularly, the present invention relates to a method of and system for labeling containers of prescribed medicine.

### 2. Description of the Prior Art

10 Those of ordinary skill in the art and laypersons alike are well aware of labels which are found on containers of prescribed medicine. Typically, a label on a container of prescribed medicine will contain information such as the name of the patient; the name of the medicine and the dosage particulars; the name of the prescribing doctor; the quantity of medicine in the container; the expiration date of the medicine; a code which identifies the  
15 medicine manufacturer; a prescription number; the prescription date; the name and address of the pharmacy which filled the prescription; and a UPC code which can be used by the pharmacy to automatically identify the prescription in its computer system.

Despite the specific patient identifying information found on containers of prescribed medicine, when distributing medicine to a large number of patients, such as in hospitals and  
20 nursing homes, patients often receive the wrong medicine. To combat this serious problem, some hospitals and nursing homes take photographs of their patients and include the photographs in the medication administration record (MSA) used to record the administration of medicine. In this way the nurses administering the medicine are provided with means to

help ensure that a patient does not receive the wrong medication. These photographs are also sometimes attached to the medication cart itself, such as on a drawer, or on the divider cards used to segregate the patients' medicine. These methods, however, are laborious, time consuming, highly inefficient and potentially dangerous.

5

## **SUMMARY OF THE PRESENT INVENTION**

Accordingly, it is an object of the present invention to provide a method of and system for labeling containers of prescribed medicine which overcomes the problems associated with the prior art. It is a further object of the present invention to provide a  
10 method of and system for labeling containers of prescribed medicine wherein the label includes a photograph of the patient.

The foregoing and other objects are achieved by providing a method of and system for labeling containers of prescribed medicine wherein a photograph of a patient is taken. The photograph is then stored on a computer as a computer software object. When a  
15 prescription is filled for the patient, the photograph is printed on the label along with the patient's prescription information and the label is attached to the container.

The present invention will now be described in greater detail, with frequent reference being made to the drawings identified below.

20

## **BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS**

In the accompanying drawings:

figure 1 is a schematic diagram of a labeling system in accordance with the present invention;

figure 2 is a flow chart which illustrates the operation of the labeling system of figure 1;

figure 3 is a flow chart which illustrates the operation of the label algorithm; and

figure 4 is a sample label in accordance with the present invention.

5

### **DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT**

The following description is presented to enable any person of ordinary skill in the art to make and use the present invention. Various modifications to the preferred embodiment will be readily apparent to those of ordinary skill in the art, and the principles defined herein may be applied to other embodiments and applications without departing from the spirit and scope of the present invention. Thus, the present invention is not intended to be limited to the embodiment shown, but is to be accorded the broadest scope consistent with the principles and features disclosed herein.

The present invention is designed specifically for use by pharmacies which distribute prescriptions to patients in nursing homes, hospitals, or other large medical institutions. However, it will be realized by those of ordinary skill in the art that the present invention may be used by any pharmacy in distributing prescribed medicine. Thus, the present invention is in no way limited to use in nursing homes and hospitals.

Referring to figure 1, the system 10 in accordance with the present invention includes a digital camera 12 for taking digital photographs of the patients, such as a Kodak™ digital camera; a secondary computer 14, such as an IBM compatible personal computer, for downloading the digital photographs from the digital camera 12 and converting the photographs into software objects; a primary computer 16, such as a midrange computer, for

creating the labels; and a printer 18 attached to the secondary computer 16 for printing the labels.

For purposes of this discussion, it will be assumed that the system 10 will be used by a pharmacy to distribute medicine to patients in a nursing home.

5 Referring to figure 2, using the digital camera 12, a pharmacist, or an agent or employee of the pharmacist, first takes a digital photograph of each nursing home patient. The digital camera 12 is then attached, via an appropriately configured port, to the secondary computer 14 which contains processing software 20 stored in a memory 21 for converting the digital photographs into software objects 22, such as JPEG files. The photographs are then  
10 uploaded to the secondary computer 14 from the digital camera 12 and converted into software objects 22. Digital cameras are generally sold with processing software which will run under popular operating systems, such as Windows 95™, which do this conversion. Depending on the number of patients and the capacity of the digital camera 12, this process may need to be repeated a number of times. Additionally, as new patients enter the nursing  
15 home, their photographs must be taken as well.

After conversion, the software objects 22 are temporarily stored on the secondary computer 14 in memory 21 . It will be realized by those of ordinary skill in the art that the secondary computer 14 may be any type of computer which is capable of performing the functions described herein. However, the secondary computer 14 will typically be an  
20 inexpensive IBM™ compatible personal computer having a central-processing-unit (CPU), a hard drive for storing the processing software and the software objects, a random-access-memory (RAM), a read only memory (ROM), a monitor, a keyboard and a mouse, all running under Windows 95™ or the like.

The software objects are next uploaded from the secondary computer 14 to the primary computer 16 via appropriately configured ports on each computer, where they are indexed and stored in a photograph database 24 which is stored in a memory 25. The primary computer 16 also includes stored in memory 25 a prescription database 26 which contains the prescription information of each patient, including the name of the patient, the name of the medicine and the dosage particulars, the name of the prescribing doctor, the name of the nursing home and the quantity of medicine in the prescription, and an inventory database 28 which contains information relating to the medicine which the pharmacist has in stock, including the identity of the manufacturers and the expiration date of the various medicines. The prescription database 26 and the inventory database 28 will be periodically updated as the prescription information of the patients change and as the pharmacist's inventory changes. The primary computer 16 also includes a label algorithm 30 which will create the labels.

While the primary computer may also be an IBM™ compatible computer, it will generally be a more business oriented computer, such as an IBM AS/400™, having a more powerful CPU, more RAM, more ROM, and a hard drive having sufficient memory to hold the various databases described herein. It will be apparent to those of ordinary skill in the art, however, that the primary computer 16 may be any type of computer capable of performing the functions described herein.

Before any prescriptions are filled, the photographs should be confirmed by sending a grid sheet having the name and photograph of every patient to the nursing home, who will ensure that the names and photographs are correctly matched. In this way any errors which may have occurred during the photographing process can be corrected.

When it comes time to fill a prescription for a patient, a pharmacist or a pharmacist's technician or the like will run the label algorithm 30 using a terminal 32 connected to the primary computer 16. Typically, the label algorithm 30 will be launched through a master software module 33 which is used to control the overall operation of the primary computer 16, including updating of the various databases. Such master software modules are commercially available and are well known to those of ordinary skill in the art.

Referring to figure 3, which illustrates how the label algorithm functions, the pharmacist or pharmacist's technician or the like will enter information which identifies the patient, such as the patient's name or a prescription number. The label algorithm 30 will then retrieve the prescription information from the prescription database 26, the corresponding photograph from the photograph database 24 and the medicine information from the inventory database 28 and combine the data to create a label. The label will then be printed on the printer 18, which is preferably a laser printer for clarity, but which may be any type of printer. The printed label is then attached to the medicine container, preferably through an adhesive on the back of the label. It will be appreciated that a label algorithm in accordance with the present invention may be readily implemented by one of ordinary skill in the art.

A sample label 34 in accordance with the present invention is shown in figure 4. As is clear from figure 4, the label contains a photograph of the patient, as well as the patient's prescription information. Additionally, the label contains the expiration date of the medicine; a code which identifies the medicine manufacturer; the name and address of the pharmacy which filled the prescription; and a UPC code generated by the label algorithm 30 which can be used by the pharmacy to automatically identify and track the prescription.

It will be realized by those of ordinary skill in the art that the functions performed by the primary and secondary computers may in fact be performed on one computer instead of two, and thus the present invention is not limited to two separate computers. It will also be realized by those of ordinary skill in the art that the present invention is also not limited to use of a digital camera. For example, photographs may be taken using an ordinary camera. After developing, the photographs may be converted to computer software objects using a scanner or the like.

Nor, as discussed above, is the present invention limited to use in nursing homes, hospitals and the like. Rather, it will be apparent to those of ordinary skill in the art that the present invention may be used in any type of pharmacy, including a consumer's neighborhood pharmacy. For example, when a consumer goes to his neighborhood pharmacy to fill a prescription for the first time, the pharmacist can take his/her photograph and store the photograph in the pharmacist's computer. Each time the consumer fills a prescription, his/her photograph will be printed on the label.

Thus, in accordance with the foregoing the objects of the present invention are achieved. Modifications to the above would be obvious to those of ordinary skill in the art, but would not bring the invention so modified beyond the scope of the appended claims.

## CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A method of labeling a container of prescribed medicine, said method comprising the steps:
  - obtaining a photograph of a patient;
  - converting said photograph into a computer software object;
  - 5 creating a label containing prescription information of said patient and said photograph by combining said computer software object with said prescription information;
  - printing said label; and
  - attaching said label to said container.
2. The method according to claim 1 wherein said converting and creating steps are performed on a single computer.
3. The method according to claim 1 wherein said converting and creating steps are performed on two different computers.
4. The method according to claim 1 wherein during said creating step said computer software object is retrieved from a photograph database and said prescription information is retrieved from a prescription database.

5. The method according to claim 1 wherein said label further includes medicine information retrieved from an inventory database.
6. The method according to claim 1 wherein said label is printed on a laser printer.
7. The method according to claim 1 wherein said photograph is obtained by taking said photograph using a camera.
8. The method according to claim 7 wherein said camera is a digital camera.
9. A system for labeling a container of prescribed medicine, said system comprising:  
a camera for taking a photograph of a patient;  
means for converting said photograph into a computer software object;  
means for creating a label containing prescription information of said patient and said photograph by combining said computer software object with said prescription information;  
and  
a printer for printing said label.
10. The system according to claim 9 wherein said means for converting is a computer having processing software for converting said photograph into said computer software object.

11. The system according to claim 9 wherein said means for creating is a computer having a label algorithm for creating said label.

12. The system according to claim 9 wherein said means for converting and means for creating are a single computer.

13. The system according to claim 9 wherein said means for converting and means for creating are two different computers.

14. The system according to claim 9 wherein said computer software object is stored in a photograph database and wherein said means for creating retrieves said computer software object from said photograph database.

15. The system according to claim 9 wherein said prescription information is stored in a prescription database and wherein said means for creating retrieves said prescription information from said prescription database.

16. The system according to claim 9 wherein said means for creating combines said computer software object and said prescription information with medicine information to create said label.

17. The method according to claim 16 wherein said means for creating retrieves said medicine information from an inventory database.

18. The method according to claim 9 wherein said camera is a digital camera.

## ABSTRACT

A method of and system for labeling containers of prescribed medicine is provided wherein a photograph of a patient is taken using a camera. The photograph is then stored on a computer as a computer software object. When a prescription is filled for the patient, the  
5 photograph is printed on the label along with prescription information and the label is attached to the container.

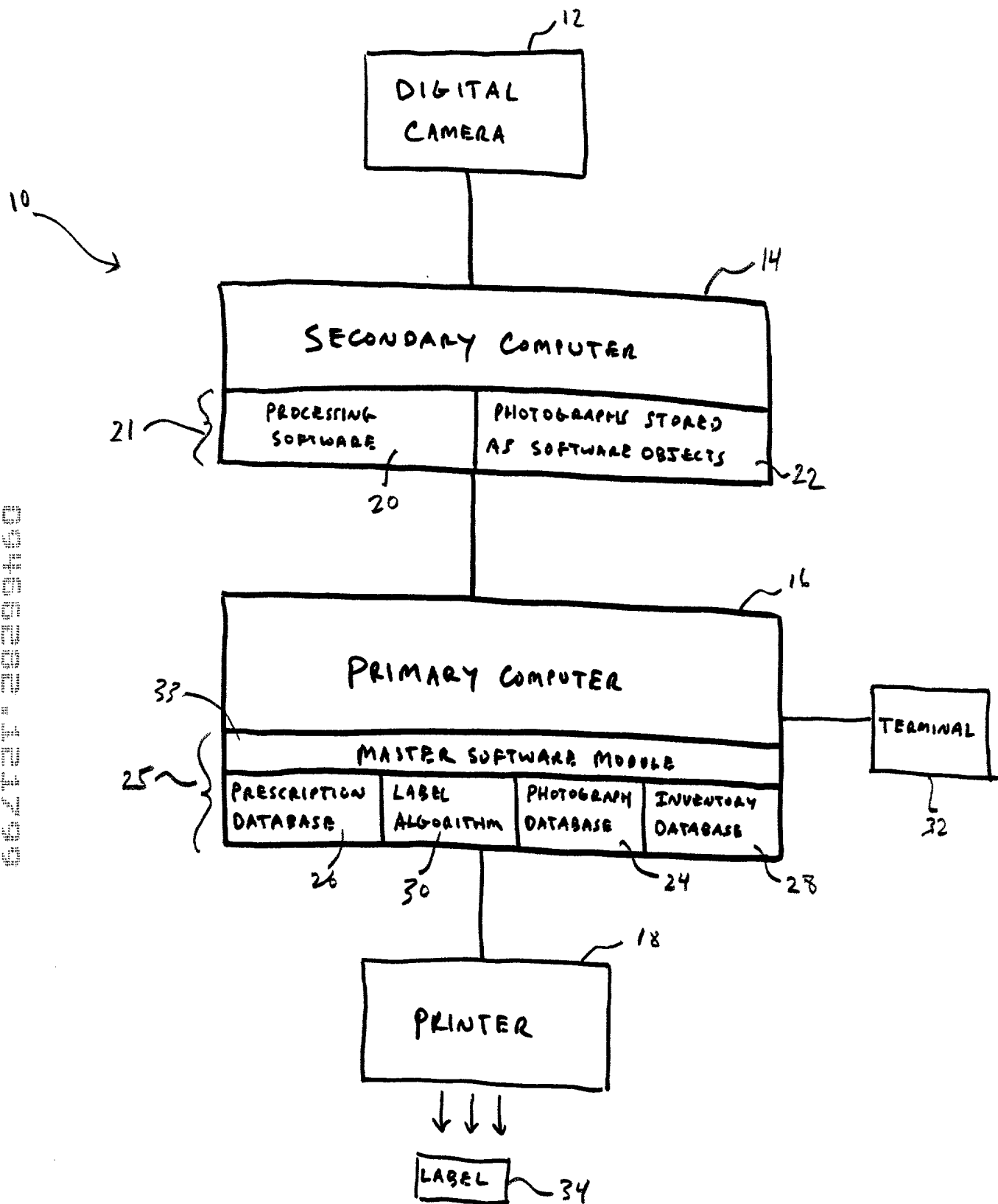


Figure 1

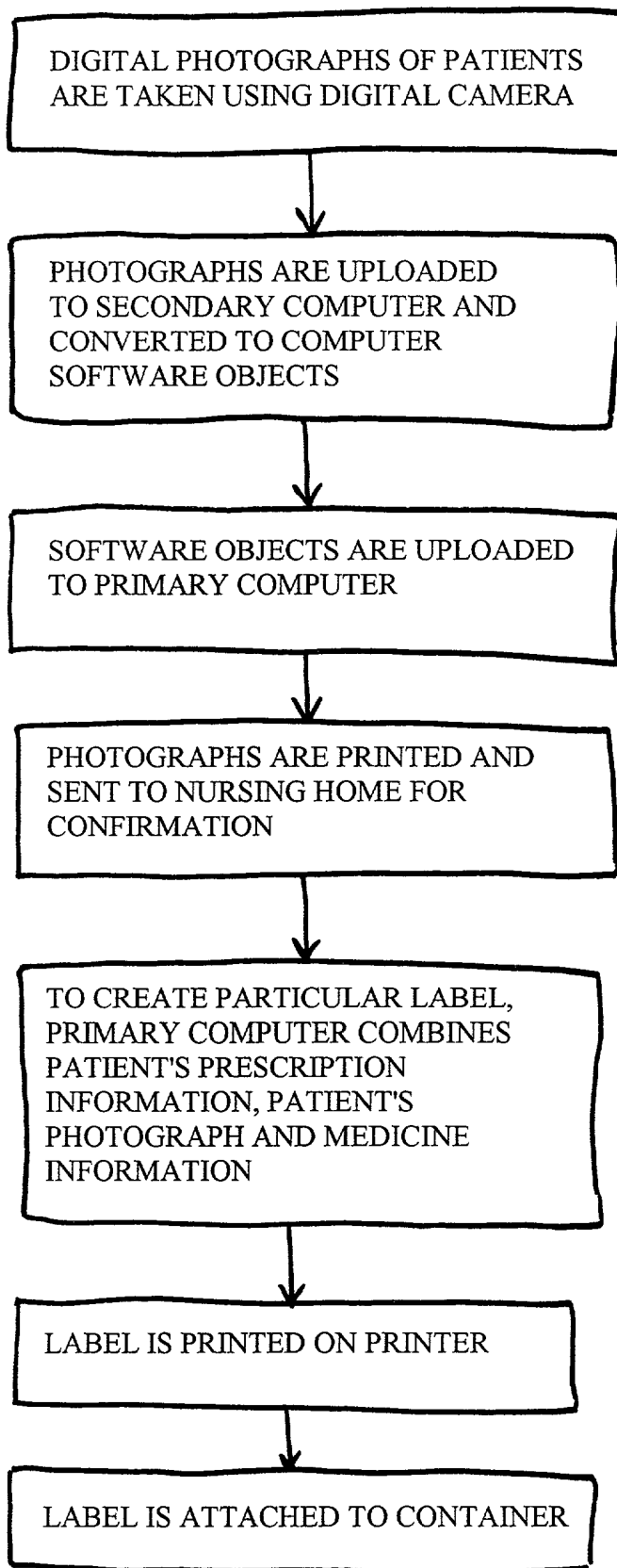


Figure 2

09466002 121759

040622Z 121799

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graph TD; A[PRESCRIPTION INFORMATION IS RETRIEVED FROM PRESCRIPTION DATABASE BASED ON PATIENT IDENTIFYING INFORMATION INPUT INTO COMPUTER] --> B[CORRESPONDING PHOTOGRAPH IS RETRIEVED FROM PHOTOGRAPH DATABASE]; B --> C[MEDICINE INFORMATION IS RETRIEVED FROM INVENTORY DATABASE]; C --> D[PRESCRIPTION INFORMATION, PHOTOGRAPH AND MEDICINE INFORMATION ARE COMBINED TO CREATE LABEL]; D --> E[LABEL IS SENT TO PRINTER FOR PRINTING];
```

PRESCRIPTION INFORMATION IS  
RETRIEVED FROM PRESCRIPTION  
DATABASE BASED ON PATIENT  
IDENTIFYING INFORMATION  
INPUT INTO COMPUTER

CORRESPONDING PHOTOGRAPH  
IS RETRIEVED FROM PHOTOGRAPH  
DATABASE

MEDICINE INFORMATION IS RETRIEVED  
FROM INVENTORY DATABASE

PRESCRIPTION INFORMATION,  
PHOTOGRAPH AND MEDICINE  
INFORMATION ARE COMBINED TO  
CREATE LABEL

LABEL IS SENT TO PRINTER FOR  
PRINTING

Figure 3

34 →



<b>DOE, JOHN</b>		<b>123 A</b>
<b>ASPIRIN</b>	<b>TAB 325MG</b>	
<b>ONE TABLET P.O. DAILY</b>		
Qty: 30.00 TABLET      Exp: 05/00 C DS / /		
NDC: 00113041178      Dr: SMITH, A		
Rx#: 050994      11/30/99      GOLDEN ACRES HOME		
DOE, JOHN ASPIRIN      TAB 325MG Rx#: 050994	 <b>050994</b>	DOE, JOHN ASPIRIN      TAB 325MG Qty: 30.00      11/30/99
<b>RXPRTS</b>		
6000 DALTON STREET,      HORTON GROVE IL 60059 PR 6263000      847-663-1818      Fax: 847/663-1829		

Figure 4

00113041178 123 A

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → +

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<b>DECLARATION FOR UTILITY OR DESIGN PATENT APPLICATION (37 CFR 1.63)</b>	<b>Attorney Docket Number</b>	42543.3
	<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Ruben
	<b>COMPLETE IF KNOWN</b>	
	<b>Application Number</b>	/
	<b>Filing Date</b>	
	<b>Group Art Unit</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Declaration Submitted with Initial Filing	<b>OR</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Declaration Submitted after Initial Filing (surcharge (37 CFR 1.16 (e)) required)
<b>Examiner Name</b>		

**As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:**

My residence, post office address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

Method of and system for labeling containers of prescribed medicine

the specification of which (Title of the Invention)

☒ is attached hereto  
OR  
☐ was filed on (MM/DD/YYYY)  as United States Application Number or PCT International Application Number  and was amended on (MM/DD/YYYY)  (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or of any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application Number(s)	Country	Foreign Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Priority Not Claimed	Certified Copy Attached?	
				YES	NO
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

☐ Additional foreign application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto:

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

Application Number(s)	Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)

☐ Additional provisional application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto.

[Page 1 of 2]

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## DECLARATION — Utility or Design Patent Application

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. 120 of any United States application(s), or 365(c) of any PCT international application designating the United States of America, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

U.S. Parent Application or PCT Parent Number	Parent Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Parent Patent Number (if applicable)

☐ Additional U.S. or PCT international application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto.

As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following registered practitioner(s) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith: ☐ Customer Number  OR

☒ Registered practitioner(s) name/registration number listed below

Place Customer  
Number Bar Code  
Label here

Name	Registration Number	Name	Registration Number
James E. Marina, Esq.	41,969		

☐ Additional registered practitioner(s) named on supplemental Registered Practitioner Information sheet PTO/SB/02C attached hereto.

Direct all correspondence to: ☐ Customer Number  OR ☒ Correspondence address below

Name	James E. Marina, Esq.				
Address	Winston & Strawn				
Address	200 Park Avenue				
City	New York	State	NY	ZIP	10166
Country	U.S.A.	Telephone	212-294-6700	Fax	212-294-4700

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Name of Sole or First Inventor:		<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor			
Given Name (first and middle (if any))		Family Name or Surname			
Dennis		Ruben			
Inventor's Signature				Date	12/14/99
Residence: City	Lincolnwood	State	IL	Country	U.S.A.
Post Office Address	6519 North Central Park Avenue				
Post Office Address					
City	Lincolnwood	State	IL	ZIP	60712
		Country	U.S.A.		

☒ Additional inventors are being named on the 1 supplemental Additional Inventor(s) sheet(s) PTO/SB/02A attached hereto

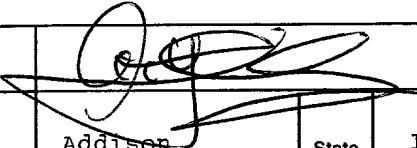
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PTO/SB/02A (3-97)  
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## DECLARATION

## ADDITIONAL INVENTOR(S) Supplemental Sheet Page 1 of 1

<b>Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any:</b>				<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor											
Given Name (first and middle [if any])				Family Name or Surname											
Allen				Yeung											
Inventor's Signature				Date		12/14/99									
Residence: City		Addison		State		IL		Country		U.S.A.		Citizenship		U.S.A.	
Post Office Address		1387 Lilac Lane													
Post Office Address															
City		Addison		State		IL		ZIP		60401		Country		U.S.A.	
<b>Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any:</b>				<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor											
Given Name (first and middle [if any])				Family Name or Surname											
Inventor's Signature				Date											
Residence: City				State				Country				Citizenship			
Post Office Address															
Post Office Address															
City				State				ZIP				Country			
<b>Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any:</b>				<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor											
Given Name (first and middle [if any])				Family Name or Surname											
Inventor's Signature				Date											
Residence: City				State				Country				Citizenship			
Post Office Address															
Post Office Address															
City				State				ZIP				Country			

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